

Amendments to the Specification

Please replace Paragraph [0006] with the following amended paragraph:

[0006] Figure 5 depicts a “load bearing” exterior wall which could be employed in the structure 20 of Figure 4. As can be seen Figure 5, the tops of the vertically extending studs 22 are received in and attached to the upper track 23. The C-shaped rim 25 is supported on and attached to the web of the upper track 23 as shown. The rim 25 has a web 26 and a lower flange 27 and an upper flange 28. The C-shaped floor joists 29 are affixed to the web 26 of the rim 25 with a corresponding clip angles (not shown). In addition to prevent the web of the rim 25 from crippling under load, a web stiffener 31 is attached to the web 26 of the rim 25 and the web 30 of the corresponding joist 29. The wall for the second story is formed from a plurality of studs 33 that extend between another lower track 32 that is attached to the upper flange 28 of the rim 25 and an upper track 34. In addition, L-shaped angles 36’, commonly referred to as “pour stops” may be affixed to the lower track 32 and joists 29 for receiving the ends of a concrete slab 35 poured over metal decking 35’ or the like. Lateral bridging members 37, such as those disclosed in U.S. Patent No. 5,784,850 to Elderson or U.S. Patent No. ~~6,021,168~~ 6,021,618 to Elderson or other known lateral bridging member arrangements may extend through openings in the studs 22 and 33 and engage the webs thereof to provide lateral support to the studs 22 and 33. See Figure 4. Lateral bridging members 37 of the types mentioned above may extend through openings 36 in the studs 33.